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S/1996/718
5 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 5 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit here the text of a statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 2 September 1996.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) KIM Hyong U
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Statement by the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 2 September 1996

Fifty-one years have elapsed since the military occupation of south Korea by the United States.

Over half a century of occupation of south Korea by United States military forces has created the tragedy of a divided nation, put grave obstacles in the way of peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, even in the current post-cold war era, and inflicted immeasurable misery and suffering on the entire Korean population.

Had it not been for the occupation of south Korea by United States military forces, our fatherland would not have suffered the disastrous three-year war in the early 1950s and the situation of today's Korean peninsula, characterized by confrontation, war and division, would not have developed.

The continued presence of United States forces in south Korea is totally responsible for the failure of an atmosphere of trust to be established between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States owing to the persistent belligerence and deeply rooted hostile relations that still remain in place between the two countries.

The occupation of south Korea by United States military forces is not an issue of concern confined to the Korean nation only. The United States military presence is, to a large extent, related to the still lingering after-effect of the cold war era in north-east Asia today that places the peace and security of this region in heavy uncertainty. These facts clearly prove that the United States military occupation of south Korea should not continue any longer.

As a matter of fact, at present, there is no justification whatsoever for United States military forces to remain stationed in south Korea.

The north and south of Korea signed and put into effect the inter-Korean agreement as early as February 1992, pledging non-aggression, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States signed the Agreed Framework in 1994, pledging to resolve the nuclear issue, to normalize their political and economic relations and to work together towards peace and security.

Moreover, since the cold war era structure of East-West confrontation has been dissolved and those countries that were once enemies of the United States are now becoming close friendly partners of the United States, developments in north-east Asia no longer provide any justification for the United States military presence in the region. It follows, therefore, that it is high time for the United States to make a bold decision to withdraw its military forces from south Korea and that, indeed, it is the best point of time for its "honourable withdrawal".

The above notwithstanding, the United States continues to keep its military forces stationed in south Korea and is reluctant to declare its intention to withdraw its military forces therefrom.

To the contrary, the United States is further heightening its military threat, blackmail and pressure against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and stirring up confrontation and an arms race among the countries of the region by modernizing the weaponry and military equipment of United States forces in south Korea and further increasing military exercises between the United States and south Korea, and the United States and Japan. Such United States policy is anachronistic and runs counter to the demands of our people and the peoples of the Asia-Pacific region.

The best way for a peaceful solution to the issues in the Korean peninsula, which still remains the last vestige of the cold war era, is to eliminate the outdated armistice system emanating from the end of the Korean War and to establish as early as possible a new peace mechanism to replace the old system.

On the basis of such practical requirements, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a constructive proposal in April 1994, calling for the establishment of a new peace mechanism, a proposal that was followed in February 1996 by a further expanded peace proposal, calling for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States to conclude an interim agreement replacing the Armistice Agreement, pending a full peace agreement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, and to establish a joint military body to implement and supervise the implementation of the proposed interim agreement.

This proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is motivated by its serious desire and consideration that, if the United States finds it inconvenient to discuss the establishment of a comprehensive peace system at the present time, both sides could discuss mutually acceptable steps to deter accidents and armed conflicts as the priority agenda.

However, in an effort to offset the interim agreement proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United States has come up with the "four-party talks", which are both equivocal in outline and impossible to determine when they will be feasible.

In its "Cheju Island declaration" dated 16 April 1996, the United States said that the "four-party talks" are intended to "initiate the process of a permanent peace agreement". If this is true, the key topic of the proposed talks should be the withdrawal of United States troops. However, it is not yet certain whether the United States side is prepared to discuss the withdrawal of United States military forces from south Korea at the talks or whether such a titular proposal was put forward in order to reject our proposal. The United States will have to clarify its position on this point.

If the United States side is not willing to discuss the immediate withdrawal of its military forces from south Korea at the "four-party talks", it is only too self-evident that such a formula of talks is utterly useless.

We believe that, on all accounts, a positive United States response at this time to our interim agreement proposal meets United States interests as well.

We will follow the future attitude of the United States.

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LETTER DATED 5 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BURUNDI TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In confirmation of my oral briefing on 5 September 1996, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the memorandum outlining the programme which the Government of Burundi proposes to undertake during the transitional period, as it was communicated to the States of the Great Lakes region and to President Mwalimu Julius Nyerere in his capacity as mediator.

The projected programme comprises four main objectives: restoration of the Burundian State; dialogue with the armed factions; organization of a national debate; establishment of a National Assembly composed of all its former members as well as other members. Consultations have already begun to that end. The programme also envisages the return of political parties to the national arena. They will be required to abide by the law governing such parties since 1992 and by the code of conduct for political parties.

The programme undertaken by the Government shows clearly that it is determined to adhere to priorities consistent with resolution 1072 (1996) adopted on 30 August 1996 by the Security Council. The Government takes this opportunity to reiterate the proposal which it made to the President of the Security Council in August 1996, namely that the report of the International Commission of Inquiry should be made official and transmitted to the accredited Burundian authorities.

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request you to have the annexed memorandum circulated as an official document to all the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) NSANZE TERENCE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Memorandum

On the basis of the Declaration of 25 July 1996, the Government of the Republic of Burundi has just communicated to the countries of the subregion and to the designated mediator, President Julius Nyerere, the following clarifications regarding the peace and security programme which Burundi is submitting to the countries of the subregion in particular, and the international community in general.

I. DURATION OF THE TRANSITION

We confirm the transitional nature of the regime installed on 25 July 1996. The duration of this regime will be three years, depending on the pace at which our agenda is implemented. The transitional period might be shorter. This flexibility is dictated by realism, because of the implementation of such programmes as the dialogue with the armed factions and the national debate, the duration of which cannot be firmly established at the outset.

II. TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMME

A. Restoration of the Burundian State

The disorder resulting from the crisis since 1993 has profoundly destabilized the State. In order to put an end to that situation, we undertake, inter alia:

(a) To improve discipline within the defence and security forces; to restore the work ethic by imposing discipline at all levels, with the focus on young people;

(b) To prevent perpetrators from enjoying impunity. Impunity has had a devastating effect on our society. In order to put an end to that situation, we intend to begin measures such as the following in the next few days: (i) trial of persons implicated in the coup d'état of 21 October 1993; (ii) trial of persons implicated in the ethnic massacres following the coup d'état of 21 October 1993. In this connection, we reiterate our request to the United Nations to publish and transmit to us the report of the International Commission of Inquiry.

B. Dialogue with the armed factions

We reconfirm here our readiness to initiate a dialogue with all the armed factions, on condition that they cease to massacre innocent people and that they renounce the ideology of genocide.

C. Organization of a national debate

This debate will bring together all Burundians, of all ethnic groups and all political tendencies, without exception. It will focus on fundamental questions, such as security, justice and the establishment of institutions in accordance with the wishes and interests of all Burundians. At the end of this debate, a new Constitution and new institutions will be put in place.

D. Transitional institutions

1. The National Assembly

As from the next session, all the members of the present National Assembly will resume business as usual, without any impediment.

In view of the difficulties noted earlier which affected the credibility of this institution, we are going to include other members, in consultation with the present National Assembly, according to procedures to be determined by mutual agreement.

The National Assembly will play a fundamental role in controlling the executive and conducting the national debate.

The form to be taken by the enlarged National Assembly cannot be predicted during this transitional period; the Assembly will begin its work when the process of consultation is over.

Needless to say, the members of the National Assembly will continue to enjoy, without interruption, the material and other benefits deriving from their status.

2. Political parties

Political parties will resume activities within three months. However, the parties must abide by the law governing them since 1992 and by a code of conduct to be formulated in the interim, in consultation with all the parties concerned. This is in order to avoid repeating the painful experience endured during the implementation of the Convention on Governance; during the Mwanza talks, special mention was made of the lack of political realism in that process.

3. The international community

The international community in general and the countries of the subregion in particular have constantly demonstrated their determination to see Burundi emerge from the crisis.

We reiterate our desire to collaborate with the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the countries of the subregion and the designated mediator, namely President Julius Nyerere.

In this connection, we hope that the international community and in particular the countries of the subregion will send observers to Burundi to witness the restoration of peace and security, and to let the world know about the perpetrators of human rights violations, as appropriate.

We should like consultations to resume within the next few days, with a view to having a tangible expression of solidarity, as soon as possible, among all those interested in a solution to the Burundian crisis.

This, then, is a condensed version of the programme of the Republic of Burundi, for which it requests the support of the international community.

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5 September 1996
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ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 4 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States, British and French aircraft continued over the period 16 to 31 August 1996 and that the aircraft in question carried out reconnaissance and engaged in acts of provocation. The details are as follows:

1. In the northern region 144 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Aqrah, Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Ayn Zalah and Shaqlawi.

2. In the southern region 565 sorties were flown at speeds of 600 to 900 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 9,000 metres, over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Jalibah, Busayyah, Qurnah, Chabaish, Salman, Amarah, Lasaf, Artawi, Shatrah, Shinafiyah, Shubayjah, Mu'aniyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Basrah and Shu'aybah.

3. On 11 occasions United States TR-1 reconnaissance aircraft flying at speeds of 600 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 20,000 metres violated Iraq's airspace in the southern region before leaving in the direction of Kuwait.

You are requested to intervene with the countries in question with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Iraq.

These actions continue to alarm the civilian population and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek legal compensation for the damage being inflicted on the Iraqi people and the Iraqi State.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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6 September 1996

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Items 21 (b) and 153 of the provisional agenda*
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS
MEASURES TO ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Note verbale dated 30 August 1996 from the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and with reference to General Assembly resolution 50/58 E of 12 December 1995 and the latter's note verbale of 22 February 1996, has the honour to transmit herewith the text of a national communication on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/58 E, entitled "Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)".

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria has the honour to request that the annexed communication be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 21 (b) and 153, of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

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* A/51/50.

ANNEX

National communication on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/58 E entitled "Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)"

By virtue of its geographical location and the character of its economy (80 per cent oriented towards and dependent on foreign markets), Bulgaria has been extremely vulnerable to the negative side-effects of the United Nations Security Council sanctions imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro). The situation became critical owing to the accumulation of losses endured by the implementation of the previous United Nations Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Iraq, Bulgaria's biggest economic partners among the developing countries.

Coupled with the ongoing process of difficult transition from a centrally planned to a market-oriented economy, the special economic problems resulting from the implementation of the sanctions regime more than four years ago now continue to exert their negative impact on the national economy and on the overall social and economic situation in the country.

Last but not least, the sanctions' negative impact, affecting trade before all, undermines the efforts aimed at reorienting the Bulgarian foreign trade from former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) countries to the countries of the European Union and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) (the Association agreement with the European Union entered into force on 1 February 1995). The embargo regime coincided with the final and very sensitive round of negotiations on Bulgaria's accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade Organization (GATT)/World Trade Organization (WTO).

I. Losses sustained by the Bulgarian economy

The analysis based on several relatively distinct data sources can be summed up as follows:

A. General classification

Losses were caused by the interruption of economic relations with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Bilateral trade and economic cooperation in the early 1990s were growing. In 1992, the volume of bilateral trade increased fivefold as compared to the same period of 1991 and the relative share of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the overall trade of Bulgaria grew from 1 to 9 per cent. The analysis of the long-term agreements on trade, industrial cooperation, joint investment, etc., indicates that this trend would have continued and even intensified provided the sanctions regime had been avoided.

The bulk of the losses is a result of the disruption of traditional commercial routes for the Bulgarian export to Central and Western Europe that resulted in substantial scaling down of economic relations with countries from this part of the continent. Until the enforcement of the sanctions regime 75 per cent of the Bulgarian export had been transiting through the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The use of alternative commercial routes bypassing the target country led to substantial increases of the cost and transporting time both for export and import. This fact was extremely harmful for the Bulgarian perishable goods, mainly fruits and vegetables, which resulted in unrecoverable loss of traditional market shares in Europe for the Bulgarian export of such goods. The lifting of the sanctions regime alone is not enough to reverse this situation.

Another side-effect was the curtailment and even termination of a number of joint projects for economic cooperation with Western and Central European partners.

Suspended re-export, barter and other multilateral transactions of Bulgarian private and State-run companies with foreign partners represent another considerable source of losses.

B. Methodology for evaluation of losses

Different methodologies have been applied by the Government of Bulgaria in order to analyse the available data. They are based on the concept of direct (impact on the balance of payments), indirect and additional losses and include the methods of evaluating losses declared by Bulgarian economic entities, of analysis and simulation of foreign trade with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the country's balance of payments (trade in goods and services) as well as the method of expert analysis by line ministries. The concept was developed and implemented on the recommendation of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) mission in Bulgaria. Following this approach the estimates of the direct losses for the period 1992-1995 amount to US$ 1.6 billion. This figure excludes indirect losses and foregone benefits as well as losses suffered by the private sector. The total amount of losses for the period 1992-1995 was approximately US$ 8 billion.

C. Losses by economic sectors

The available data could be structured following the economic sectors most affected by the implementation of the embargo regime. The industry, foreign trade and transport have registered heaviest losses owing to annulled contracts, outstanding payments, forfeits, foregone benefits, etc. The sectors of energy, tourism and construction are relatively less affected.

II. Assistance received so far

As outlined in the Secretary-General's report (A/48/573-S/26705) the absence of an internationally recognized methodology for the evaluation of

losses sustained by third countries makes it difficult to disentangle the losses directly attributable to the embargo from the adverse impact of other macroeconomic factors. Therefore most of the donor countries and the United Nations organizations have contemplated intensifying their current technical assistance programmes (the Poland Hungary Aid for the Reconstruction of the Economy (PHARE) programme of the European Union, as well as UNDP). The scope and volume of the support largely depend on political will and/or the capacity to provide assistance.

The period of the implementation of sanctions has shown the lack of preparedness of the international community to respond in an adequate manner to difficulties and unforeseen negative consequences for third States neighbouring the target country. This conclusion was drawn up in the letter dated 18 May 1995 from the States directly affected by the implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions imposing trade and economic sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (Bulgaria, Greece, the Republic of Moldova, Romania and Ukraine) addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (A/50/189-S/1995/412). The letter drew the attention of the forum to the serious economic difficulties sustained by these countries as a result of the implementation of the sanctions and put forward some proposals for feasible steps to be undertaken in order to ease the burden of the affected States.

III. Proposals for assistance

- Easing the access of companies from the interested affected States to orders by United Nations humanitarian organizations for rendering humanitarian assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), including for displaced persons (refugees and returnees);

- Participation of companies of the affected third States to post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation of the crisis-stricken areas;

- Assistance for the improvement of the regional infrastructure, including long-term transport infrastructure projects. The Crete European Conference of the Ministers of Transport (1994) defined four priority transport corridors crossing the territory of Bulgaria: corridor IV - Berlin-Prague-Budapest-Krayova-Sofia-Athens-Istanbul; corridor VII - the Danube river; corridor VIII - Dourrasi-Skopie-Sofia-Bourgas; and corridor IX - Helsinki-Moscow-Kiev-Bucharest-Dimitrovgrad. These corridors would provide for the promotion of regional trade and overall cooperation, they will be of common benefit for the countries of Western, Central and Northern Europe offering fast connection with the Middle East, the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. Therefore additional efforts and resources should be concentrated for the successful realizations of those priority projects. The international financial institutions and the donor community have a particular role to play in this regard.

It should be noted that even after the lifting of the sanctions the commercial traffic through the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has not yet resumed its pre-sanctions volume owing to high road taxes and tolls applied by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the continuing uncertainty of the post-crisis situation prevailing in the country.

IV. Regional cooperation

In paragraph 7 of its resolution 50/58 E, the General Assembly encouraged the States of the region affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to cooperate actively on a regional basis in such fields as cross-border infrastructure projects or promotion of trade, thus alleviating the adverse impact of the sanctions.

With the establishment of peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, new opportunities are opening up for expanding regional cooperation, which meets the expectations of the peoples of the region. Bulgaria welcomes the initiative to convene the donor's conference in Brussels to pledge support from the international community for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the region. This process creates opportunities for the countries in the region, including Bulgaria, to mitigate partially the adverse impact endured by their economies owing to the observation of the sanctions regime. The Balkan Conference on Stability, Security and Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe, held at Sofia on 6 and 7 July 1996, and convened at the initiative of the Government of Bulgaria, has reconfirmed the determination of the States to transform the region of south-eastern Europe into an area of stability, security and cooperation. Taking into consideration all new developments, the Conference emphasized the necessity to extend good-neighbourly relations, to enhance economic and infrastructure cooperation and to promote humanitarian, social and cultural contacts. The ministers confirmed the willingness of their respective Governments to work for the consolidation of the peace process in all its aspects.

The prospects for multilateral cooperation in the context of the European integration process have been analysed. In this connection the countries of the region have expressed their readiness to interact with other regional organizations and initiatives such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Central European Initiative, and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation. In this process, it is important to work for the introduction of common norms and standards in the field of production, investment, transfer of technologies, financing and trade, with the aim of facilitating regional economic cooperation and the gradual integration of the economies of the countries of the region into the European economy. In this regard the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) has a particular role to play, especially in developing the European infrastructure, the setting of norms and standards, the facilitation and financing of trade, legal frameworks for privatization and investment promotion.

The economic cooperation is the key element of post-war peace and confidence, security and stability in the region. Regional economic cooperation

has a significant role to play for the smoother integration of the countries of the region into the world economy in the context of liberalization of trade and globalization of economy. Hence, any perspective vision of the economic future of the region has a bearing on the institutional and legal aspects of the regional economic cooperation.

The strengthening of regional interrelations would provide for increasing foreign investment. Special attention was paid to the trans-border cooperation on bilateral and multilateral basis, aimed at elaborating a regional programme for its development with the assistance of the European Union and other interested international organizations.

In the field of transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure, special emphasis was put on the infrastructure development in the region, which is vital for trade and economic performance, as well as for attracting capital flows. Upgrading and modernizing the transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure in the subregion, the cooperation with the countries of the Central European Initiative and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation is of paramount importance. The development of the transport infrastructure implies mainly the concept for development of the east-west and north-south transport corridors, which are included in the national short- and long-term programmes for the development of the regional transport infrastructure. This will spur trade relations among the countries of the region as well as with the countries of Western Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Middle East. Bulgaria attaches great importance to the improvement of border facilities, customs procedures and infrastructure, including road and railway communications with the border-crossing checkpoints, as well as opening of new ones. In this connection Bulgaria has proposed the setting up of a Transregional Centre for Transport Infrastructure at Sofia, in conformity with the recommendations of the OSCE Seminar on the Role of Trans-European Infrastructure for the Development of Stability and Cooperation in the Black Sea Region (Sofia, 15-17 November 1995). This proposal was supported at the Sofia Conference. The convening of the meeting of the Ministers of Transport of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation participating States and the countries of the Central European Initiative in Sofia in November 1996 will be an important event in developing regional transport cooperation in accordance with the decisions of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Ministerial Conference at Bucharest.

The cooperation trends in the area of telecommunications and postal services in the region has been encouraging. The April 1996 meeting of the Ministers of the Balkan countries responsible for postal administration and telecommunications, recommended the setting up of a Telecommunications Coordination Committee and a Balkan Postal Pool and came up with some other new initiatives as well.

The promotion of trade, tourism and investment is expected to become a major source for sustainable economic development in south-eastern Europe, for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the war-stricken area and for integration of the region into larger economic environments. A positive contribution in that direction would be the conclusion of bilateral agreements on free trade areas in conformity with European Union regulations as applicable, and in line with the provisions of the World Trade Organization's agreements.

V. Implementation of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations

Bulgaria has always underlined the importance of setting up a mechanism for the effective application of Article 50 of the Charter. Such a mechanism should be based on the understanding that the application of coercive measures is a collective endeavour and the hardship for the third countries should be equitably shared among all Member States. Bulgaria fully supports the proposals in this regard contained in General Assembly resolution 47/120 B, part IV, on "An Agenda for Peace", and resolutions 48/210, 48/58, 49/21 A, 50/58 E and 50/51, dealing with economic assistance for States affected by the implementation of United Nations Security Council sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) as well as with the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, including Article 50, related to the special economic problems confronting States and arising from the carrying out of sanctions mandated under Chapter VII of the Charter. The proposals contained in these resolutions indicate the growing understanding of the international community and an emerging consensus among the Member States on the issue of sanctions. Bulgaria considers that special attention should be paid to the following suggestions:

- Prior to the imposition of sanctions, consultation should be held with third countries most likely to be affected by the imposition of sanctions and assessment of the potential impact of sanctions on them. In this regard the elaboration of internationally recognized methodology for the evaluation of incurred losses is necessary. During the sanctions regime a mechanism of permanent consultations with third countries should also be envisaged;

- Ways of assisting Member States that are suffering collateral damage should be explored and claims submitted by these States under Article 50 should be evaluated;

- The bodies entrusted with the task to monitor the implementation of the sanctions in discharging their mandates should avoid placing additional hardship on third countries;

- Consideration should be given to the possibility of establishing a time-frame for the application of sanctions;

- Improvement should be made to the methods of work and to ensuring transparency of the procedures of the Security Council and the sanctions committees and to the adoption of expeditious working procedures;

- Consideration should be given to possibilities for exemptions from sanctions regimes;

- The possibility of establishing a trust fund to assist third States financially affected by the imposition of sanctions should be explored;

- Economic assistance should be provided by international financial institutions, including debt relief, emergency loans on highly concessional terms;

- Consideration should be given to all other forms of support, including direct assistance in cash or in kind, provision of alternative sources of supply and alternative markets, specific commodity purchase agreements, compensatory adjustments of the international tariffs, assistance for promotion of investments and technical cooperation to the affected countries.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 21 (b) and 152 of the provisional agenda*
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND ON STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Note verbale dated 30 August 1996 from the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Corrigendum

1. The agenda items and title of document A/51/330-S/1996/721 should read as above.

2. Footnote

For A/51/50 read A/51/150.

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* A/51/150.

96-24322 (E) 170996